UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

REVIEW OF GUIDELINES IN GENERAL EYE SCREENING PROGRAM

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Project submitted in fulfillment of the requirement for the Bachelor of Optometry (Hons) Faculty of Health Science

July 2015
DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UITM or other institutions.

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ABSTRACT

The standard guidelines of general eye screening program in countries are still questionable due to the presence of contradiction in the factors influencing eye screening program such as target age, appropriate test included and referral criteria for comprehensive eye examination. The objective of this study is to review the pattern of the eye screening programs in Malaysia and other countries based on the factors mentioned previously. This is a systematic review type of research based on the study about eye screening program in Malaysia and other countries that have been released to the public. This research was conducted by reviewing the eye screening program published in reliable journal. These three factors were analysed and presented in the table respectively to each country as a guideline to identify the suitability of particular procedure to be implemented. Most countries have initiated eye screening program at preschool and middle childhood whereas half of the countries performed screening at younger years (infants). Moreover, there were also limited numbers of eye screening conducted at age 19 and above. In optometric screening tests this study has suggested that parental questionnaire, gross eye examination and red reflex are the common preliminary tests for the eye screening of 5 year-old subject and below while the strabismus detection is included in all group of age as binocular assessment. Fixate-following test were done on children younger than 3 years or any illiterate child whereas the visual acuity test is recommended for children of 3 years and above who are either able to read or illiterate. Most referral criteria in preliminary test and binocular assessment are similar in all stage of age excluding vision assessment. In conclusion this review might be helpful and important in constructing the guidelines for optometrists or examiner as an effort to serve the best chances of early detection of visual problems even though there are different kinds of approach in eye screening program.

Keywords: vision screening, school screening, follow up vision screening, vision screening in older, vision screening in children, preschool children.
TABLE OF CONTENT

TITLE PAGE
APPROVAL ii
DECLARATION iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT iv
ABSTRACT v
ABSTRAK vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS viii
LIST OF TABLES x
LIST OF FIGURES xi
LIST OF ABREVIATIONS xii

CHAPTER 1  INTRODUCTION 1
1.1  Background of Study 1
1.2  Problem Statement 2
1.3  Significance of Study 3
1.4  Objectives 4
   1.4.1 General Objective 4
   1.4.2 Specific Objective 4
1.5  Research Questions 4

CHAPTER 2  LITERATURE REVIEW 5
2.1  The Eye Screening and A Comprehensive Eye Examination 5
2.2  Rationale for Eye Screening Program 6
2.3  The Target Age 7
2.4  Common Screening And Assessment Tests 9
2.5  Overview of Vision Screening Worldwide 11
   2.5.1 Eye Screening Program in Asia 12
   2.5.2 Eye Screening Program in Oceania 12
   2.5.3 Eye Screening Program in Europe 14
   2.5.4 Eye Screening Program in North America 14

CHAPTER 3  METHODOLOGY 16
3.1  Study Designs 16
3.2  Study Settings 16
3.3  Research Procedure 16
3.4  Reviewing Process 17
3.5  Expected Outcome 17
3.6  Conceptual Framework 18
# CHAPTER 4  RESULTS

4.1 Eye Screening Program in Malaysia 19
4.2 Eye Screening Program in Australia 21
4.3 Eye Screening Program in United States 30
4.4 Eye Screening Program in Sweden 50
4.5 Eye Screening Program in China 52
4.6 Eye Screening Program in New Zealand 53
4.7 Summary of Eye Screening Program Implemented in 6 Countries
   4.7.1 Age Screened 54
   4.7.2 Optometric Screening Tests 55
   4.7.3 Referral Criteria 59

# CHAPTER 5  DISCUSSION

5.1 Age Screened 61
5.2 Optometric Screening Tests 63
5.3 Referral Criteria 65

# CHAPTER 6  CONCLUSION

REFERENCES 69

APPENDICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix D</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>